

First AMPS Turkey Fry – November 19, 2011

By Vicar Hernandez

I arrived at the field around 8:00 AM and found the gates closed. Being a very windy day and having had a previous rainy day I immediately assumed the Turkey Fry was going to be a failure. Went in, opened the containers to start getting a few things ready and nothing... no one showed up for another 45 minutes. By ten there were about five of us there.

The food was laid out, some drinks placed in ice and we started commenting on how much food we would have to take home. Like many other occasions, suddenly people started showing up, planes flying and food being added to the already displayed items.

At around 11:00 AM the fire was turned on and the oil began getting hot. In another 45 minutes the turkeys went in and everyone started commenting on the novel way of cooking them. By 1:00 PM everyone was at the main shelter with plate in hand and the feast began.

Besides the turkeys, we had roasted pork, rice and beans, fried plantains, candied yams, bread and other excellent dishes. The desserts were also plentiful; besides the obligatory pumpkin pie, we had apple pie, upside down pineapple cake, cookies, and other delicacies I cannot remember...

This event was the brain child of JC Alvarez who provided the fryers and the turkey frying know-how. Second chair was Rolando (Roly) Hernandez who cooked a magnificent pork with rice and black beans. I prepared the turkeys by submerging them in brine for 24 hours, smearing them with Cajun seasonings and plunging them in hot peanut oil. When the turkeys were done, Ken Lowy and Yves Lalime masterfully carved the meat. In the end there were only bones!

Several other members helped with the setup and serving. Abraham Marquez, Pablo Moscoso, Humberto Zambrano, and various others that I cannot remember... please keep in mind I had to break my diet and my mind is still foggy.

Our most sincere thanks to those that helped and to those that attended. We are already thinking of the next event... maybe a Fish Fry...

Safe landings.